

Larry Crawford, Director Missouri Department of Corrections

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt appointed Former State Representative Larry Crawford of Centertown as the new Director of the Department of Corrections on Jan. 4, 2005, replacing Gary Kempker. Crawford, who served eight years in the Missouri House of Representatives, became the 5th Director to lead the Department since Corrections became its own cabinet-level state agency in 1981.

A native of California, MO, Director Crawford earned a reputation as a bi-partisan builder where he carried and passed modern day transportation reform, Missouri's first conceal carry law for private citizens, and overtime pay with training legislation for corrections officers. Other accomplishments include being Missouri's first and only legislator to successfully override two gubernatorial vetoes.

Crawford has received numerous awards from the following organizations: The Missouri Bar; Farm Bureau; National Federation for the Blind; National Rifleman Association; Land Surveyors; Assessors Association; Missourians for Public Safety and the Missouri Republican Assembly. His service in the House of Representatives includes several fiscal committees, Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee for Public Safety and Corrections, Chair of Transportation and Motor Vehicles, Chair of the Joint Committees on Transportation, and Correctional and State Institutions.

For 20 years, Crawford owned and operated a small business. He was twice elected Moniteau County Circuit Clerk and Recorder of Deeds prior to being a four-time elected State Representative.

Mr. Crawford and his wife Donna are the parents of six and the grandparents of 10. They reside on a farm west of Jefferson City.